



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/267,150	03/11/1999	DAVID V JAMES	SONY-50M2389	6648

7590 06/03/2003

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EXAMINER

ONUAKU, CHRISTOPHER O

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2615	

DATE MAILED: 06/03/2003

10

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Advisory Action**

Application No.

09/267,150

Applicant(s)

James

Examiner

Christopher O. Onuaku

Art Unit

2615



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED May 5, 2003 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid the abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.

## THE PERIOD FOR REPLY [check only a) or b)]

a)  The period for reply expires 3 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.

b)  The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection. ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

1.  A Notice of Appeal was filed on \_\_\_\_\_ . Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.

2.  The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:

- (a)  they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
- (b)  they raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);
- (c)  they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
- (d)  they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: \_\_\_\_\_

3.  Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s):  
\_\_\_\_\_

4.  Newly proposed or amended claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).

5.  The a)  affidavit, b)  exhibit, or c)  request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because:  
(See attached)  
\_\_\_\_\_

6.  The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.

7.  For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendment(s) a)  will not be entered or b)  will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: \_\_\_\_\_

Claim(s) objected to: \_\_\_\_\_

Claim(s) rejected: 1-32

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: \_\_\_\_\_

8.  The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is a)  approved or b)  disapproved by the Examiner.

9.  Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_ .

10.  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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***Response to Arguments***

1. Applicant's arguments filed 5/5/03 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant argues, with respect to claims 1,15&27, that Yuen does not show or suggest an object identifier that is unique across storage units. Examiner disagrees.

Yuen et al teach apparatus and methods for facilitating and monitoring the management, storage and retrieval of programs on a cassette of magnetic tape wherein the apparatus includes programs with program numbers and tapes with tape identification (TID) numbers. In the VISS PLUS TP system, for example, for HR and PR tapes, the TID and program numbers are written in TP data packets at a high repetition rate on line 19 of both fields of the VBI. When HR or PR tape is inserted into the indexing VCR 10, the indexing VCR 10 scans the VBI for a predetermined time and quickly determines from the surrounding TP data packets the TID of the tape and the current program number. When the user presses the Index button, the indexing VCR 10 retrieves the directory from the RAM 33 and displays it (see col.16, lines 45-67). Here, Yuen teaches the principle of accessing programs (objects) stored in plurality of tapes by using the unique tape identification number (TID) and the unique program number (here the TID and program number constitute the claimed unique object identifier).

Both the HR and PR tapes are storage units with unique TIDs in which programs are stored, and wherein the programs are also identified with unique identification numbers. To access the program in a particular tape, for example, the processor identifies the tape and the

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program stored in that particular tape using the TID of the particular tape and program number of the particular program. It follows, therefore, that the unique object identifier ( TID and program number constitute the claimed unique object identifier) is unique across a plurality of storage devices.

Although in this case, Yuen teaches the processing of tapes as the storage device, it would have been obvious to apply similar identification system to disk means, for example, since disk means has the desirable advantage of having large storage capacity.

Maruyama discloses the limitations of the claimed invention of claims 1,15&27, except the limitation wherein the unique object identifier is unique across a plurality of mass storage devices, which Yuen clearly shows. The combination of Maruyama and Yuen discloses the limitations of the claimed invention of claims 1,15&27.

As shown in the rejections of the last office action, the combination of Maruyama, Yuen, Taira and Nakatani discloses the claimed invention.

The rejections are, therefore, maintained.

### ***Conclusion***

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from this examiner should be directed to Christopher Onuaku whose telephone number is (703) 308-7555. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday to Thursday from 7:30 am to 5:00 pm. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Monday.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone is unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew B. Christensen, can be reached on (703) 308-9644.

**Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

**or faxed to:**

(703) 872-9314, (for formal communications intended for entry)

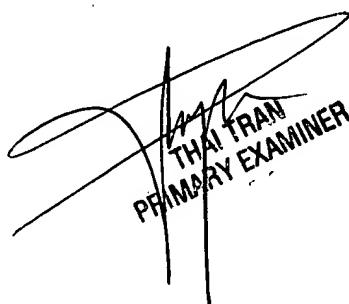
and (for informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to Customer Service whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

COO

5/29/03

  
THAI TRAN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER